

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A microprocessor having a unique secret key and a unique public key corresponding to the unique secret key
5 that cannot be read out to external, comprising:

a reading unit configured to read out a plurality of programs encrypted by using different execution code encryption keys from an external memory;

10 a decryption unit configured to decrypt the plurality of programs read out by the reading unit by using respective decryption keys;

an execution unit configured to execute the plurality of programs decrypted by the decryption unit;

15 a context information saving unit configured to save a context information for one program whose execution is to be interrupted, into the external memory or a context information memory provided inside the microprocesor, the context information containing information indicating an execution state of the one program and the execution code
20 encryption key of the one program; and

a restart unit configured to restart an execution of the one program by reading out the context information from the external memory or the context information memory, and recovering the execution state of the one program from the
25 context information.

2. The microprocessor of claim 1, wherein the context information saving unit is configured to encrypt the context information by using the public key, and to save an
30 encrypted context information into the external memory; and

the restart unit is configured to restart the execution of the one program by reading out the encrypted context information from the external memory, decrypting the encrypted context information by using the secret key,
35 and recovering the execution state of the one program from

a decrypted context information.

3. The microprocessor of claim 2, wherein the restart unit restarts the execution of the one program only when a
5 decrypted execution code encryption key contained in the decrypted context information coincides with the execution code encryption key of the one program.

4. The microprocessor of claim 2, wherein the restart
10 unit uses a decrypted execution code encryption key contained in the decrypted context information as a decryption key for decrypting the one program.

5. The microprocessor of claim 1, wherein the context
15 information saving unit is configured to save the context information in a plaintext form into the context information memory which is not readable by another program which is executed after the one program is interrupted; and
the restart unit is configured to restart an execution
20 of the one program by reading out the context information from the context information memory, and recovering the execution state of the one program from the context information.

6. The microprocessor of claim 5, wherein the restart
25 unit restarts the execution of the one program in response to an execution of a prescribed instruction by the another program.

7. The microprocessor of claim 6, wherein the context
30 information saving unit saves the context information into the context information memory at a time of interrupting the execution of the one program, and encrypts the context information in the context information memory by using the
35 public key and stores the encrypted context information

into the external memory in response to an execution of another prescribed instruction by the another program.

8. The microprocessor of claim 5, wherein the context
5 information saving unit saves the context information into the context information memory at a time of interrupting the execution of the one program, and encrypts the context information in the context information memory by using the public key and stores the encrypted context information
10 into an address on the external memory that is specified by the another program.

9. The microprocessor of claim 1, wherein the context
15 information saving unit is configured to generate a random number as a temporary key, to encrypt the context information, and to save an encrypted context information into the external memory, the encrypted context information containing a first value obtained by encrypting information indicating the execution state of the one program by using
20 the temporary key and a second value obtained by encrypting the temporary key by using the public key; and

the restart unit is configured to restart the execution of the one program by reading out the encrypted context information from the external memory, decrypting
25 the temporary key from the second value contained in the encrypted context information by using the secret key, decrypting the information indicating the execution state from the first value contained in the encrypted context information by using a decrypted temporary key, and
30 recovering the execution state of the one program from a decrypted context information.

10. The microprocessor of claim 9, wherein the context
35 information saving unit saves the encrypted context information that also contains a third value obtained by

encrypting the temporary key by using the execution code encryption key of the one program.

11. The microprocessor of claim 10, wherein the restart
5 unit decrypts a first temporary key from the second value
contained in the encrypted context information by using the
secret key and decrypts the information indicating the
execution state from the first value contained in the
10 encrypted context information by using the first decrypted
temporary key, while decrypting a second temporary key from
the third value contained in the encrypted context
information by using the execution code encryption key of
the one program, and restarts the execution of the one
15 program only when the first decrypted temporary key
coincides with the second decrypted temporary key.

12. The microprocessor of claim 1, further comprising:
an execution state memory unit for storing an
execution state of a currently executed program; and
20 an execution state initialization unit configured to
initialize a content of the execution state memory unit to
a prescribed value or encrypts the content of the execution
state memory unit, before an execution of another program
starts after the one program is interrupted.

25 13. The microprocessor of claim 1, further comprising:
a key reading unit configured to read out the
execution code encryption key of each program that is
encrypted by using the public key in advance, from the
30 external memory; and

a key decryption unit configured to decrypt the
execution code encryption key read out by the key reading
unit, by using the secret key;
wherein the decryption unit decrypts each program by
35 using the execution code encryption key as a decryption

key.

14. The microprocessor of claim 1, further comprising:

an execution state memory unit for storing an
5 execution state of a currently executed program and an
encryption attributes for data to be processed by the
currently executed program; and

a data encryption unit configured to encrypt the data
to be processed by the currently executed program according
10 to the encryption attributes stored in the execution state
memory unit.

15. The microprocessor of claim 1, further comprising:

an execution state memory unit for storing an
15 execution state of a currently executed program, encryption
attributes for data to be processed by the currently
executed program, and an encryption attribute specifying
information for specifying the encryption attributes;

a related information writing unit configured to write
20 a related information related to the encryption attribute
specifying information and containing a signature obtained
by using the secret key, into the external memory;

a related information reading unit configured to read
out the related information from the external memory
25 according to an address of a data to be referred by the
currently executed program;

a data referring permission unit configured to verify
the signature contained in the related information by using
the public key, and to permit a data referring by the
30 currently executed program by determining an encryption key
and an algorithm to be used for the data referring
according to the related information and the encryption
attribute specifying information, only when the signature
contained in the related information coincides with an
35 original signature of the microprocessor; and

a data encryption unit configured to encrypt the data to be referred by the currently executed program according to the encryption attributes stored in the execution state memory unit.

5

16. The microprocessor of claim 1, further comprising:

a cache memory for caching plaintext instructions and plaintext data for the plurality of programs in units of cache lines, the cache memory having an attribute area for each cache line indicating a decryption key identifier for uniquely identifying a decryption key used in decrypting each program whose instructions are cached in each cache line or each program whose execution has caused caching of the plaintext data in each cache line;

a cache access control unit configured to permit a data referring caused by an execution of one cached program stored in one cache line with respect to one cached data in another cache line, only when the decryption key identifier indicated by the encryption attribute for the one cache line coincides with the decryption key identifier indicated by the encryption attribute for the another cache line.

17. The microprocessor of claim 16, wherein when the data referring is not permitted, new data are cached into the another cache line from the external memory.

18. The microprocessor of claim 16, wherein when the data referring is not permitted, an execution of the one cached program is interrupted by a protection exception.

30

19. The microprocessor of claim 1, wherein the execution unit also executes plaintext programs, and has a debugging function for causing an exception when an execution of a program at a specific address or address region or a data referring to a data at the specific address or address

35

region occurs during an execution of a plaintext program,
the debugging function being invalidated during an
execution of an encrypted program.

- 5 20. The microprocessor of claim 1, wherein constituent
elements of the microprocessor are contained in a single
chip or a single package.

10

15

20

25

30

35